

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MULTIPATH DEMODULATION IN A CODE DIVISION MULTIPLE ACCESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Claim of Priority under 35 U.S.C. §120

[0001] The present Application for Patent is a Continuation and claims priority to Patent Application No. 09/182,367 entitled "Method And Apparatus For Multipath Demodulation In A Code Division Multiple Access communication System," filed October 27, 1998, now allowed, and assigned to the assignee hereof.

BACKGROUND

I. Field

[0002] The present invention relates to communications. More particularly, the present invention relates to a novel and improved method and apparatus for demodulating code division multiple access (CDMA) signals.

II. Description of the Related Art

[0003] In a wireless radiotelephone communication system, many users communicate over a wireless channel to connect to wireline telephone systems. Communication over the wireless channel can be one of a variety of multiple access techniques that allow a large number of users in a limited frequency spectrum. These multiple access techniques include time division multiple access (TDMA), frequency division multiple access (FDMA), and code division multiple access (CDMA).

[0004] The CDMA technique has many advantages. An exemplary CDMA system is described in U.S. Patent No. 4,901,307, entitled "SPREAD SPECTRUM MULTIPLE ACCESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM USING SATELLITE OR TERRESTRIAL REPEATERS," assigned to the assignee of the present invention.

[0005] In the '307 patent, a multiple access technique is disclosed where a large number of mobile telephone system users, each having a transceiver, communicate through satellite repeaters or terrestrial base stations using CDMA spread spectrum communication signals. The base station-to-mobile station signal transmission path is

referred to as the forward link and the mobile station-to-base station signal transmission path is referred to as the reverse link.

[0006] In using CDMA communications, the frequency spectrum can be reused multiple times thus permitting an increase in system user capacity. Each base station provides coverage to a limited geographic area and links the mobile stations in its coverage area through a cellular system switch to the public switched telephone network (PSTN). When a mobile station moves to the coverage area of a new base station, the routing of that user's call is transferred to the new base station.

[0007] The CDMA modulation techniques discussed in the '307 patent and in U.S. Patent No. 5,102,459 entitled "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR GENERATING SIGNAL WAVEFORMS IN A CDMA CELLULAR TELEPHONE SYSTEM," assigned to the assignee of the present invention, mitigate the special problems of the terrestrial channel, such as multipath and fading. Instead of being an impediment to system performance, as it is with narrowband systems, separable multipaths can be diversity combined in a mobile rake receiver for enhanced modem performance. The use of a RAKE receiver for improved reception of CDMA signals is disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,109,390, entitled "DIVERSITY RECEIVER IN A CDMA CELLULAR TELEPHONE SYSTEM," assigned to the assignee of the present invention. In the mobile radio channel, multipath is created by reflection of the signal from obstacles in the environment, such as buildings, trees, cars, and people. In general the mobile radio channel is a time varying multipath channel due to the relative motion of the structures that create the multipath. For example, if an ideal impulse is transmitted over the time varying multipath channel, the received stream of pulses would change in time location, attenuation, and phase as a function of the time that the ideal impulse was transmitted.

[0008] The multipath properties of the terrestrial channel produce, at the receiver, signals having traveled several distinct propagation paths. One characteristic of a multipath channel is the time spread introduced in a signal that is transmitted through the channel. As described in the '390 patent, the spread spectrum pseudonoise (PN) modulation used in a CDMA system allows different propagation paths of the same signal to be distinguished and combined, provided the difference in path delays exceeds the PN chip duration. If a PN chip rate of approximately 1 MHz is used in a CDMA system, the full spread spectrum processing gain, equal to the ratio of the spread bandwidth to the system data rate, can be employed against paths having delays that

differ by more than one microsecond. A one microsecond path delay differential corresponds to a differential path distance of approximately 300 meters.

[0009] Another characteristic of the multipath channel is that each path through the channel may cause a different attenuation factor. For example, if an ideal impulse is transmitted over a multipath channel, each pulse of the received stream of pulses generally has a different signal strength than other received pulses.

[0010] Yet another characteristic of the multipath channel is that each path through the channel may cause a different phase on the signal. If, for example, an ideal impulse is transmitted over a multipath channel, each pulse of the received stream of pulses generally has a different phase than other received pulses. This can result in signal fading.

[0011] A fade occurs when multipath vectors are added destructively, yielding a received signal that is smaller than either individual vector. For example, if a sine wave is transmitted through a multipath channel having two paths where the first path has an attenuation factor of X dB, a time delay of d with a phase shift of Q radians, and the second path has an attenuation factor of X dB, a time delay of d with a phase shift of $Q + \pi$ radians, no signal would be received at the output of the channel.

[0012] As described above, in current CDMA demodulator structures, the PN chip interval defines the minimum separation two paths must have in order to be combined. Before the distinct paths can be demodulated, the relative arrival times (or offsets) of the paths in the received signal must first be determined. The demodulator performs this function by “searching” through a sequence of offsets and measuring the energy received at each offset. If the energy associated with a potential offset exceeds a certain threshold, a demodulation element, or “finger” may be assigned to that offset. The signal present at that path offset can then be summed with the contributions of other fingers at their respective offsets.

[0013] A method and apparatus of finger assignment based on searcher and finger energy levels is disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 5,490,165, entitled “FINGER ASSIGNMENT IN A SYSTEM CAPABLE OF RECEIVING MULTIPLE SIGNALS,” assigned to the assignee of the present invention. In the exemplary embodiment, the CDMA signals are transmitted in accordance with the Telecommunications Industry Association TIA/EIA/IS-95-A, entitled “MOBILE STATION-BASE STATION COMPATIBILITY STANDARD FOR DUAL-MODE WIDEBAND SPREAD SPECTRUM CELLULAR SYSTEM.” An exemplary embodiment of the circuitry

capable of demodulating IS-95 forward link signals is described in detail in U.S. Patent No. 5,764,592, entitled "MOBILE DEMODULATOR ARCHITECTURE FOR A SPREAD SPECTRUM MULTIPLE ACCESS SYSTEM," assigned to the assignee of the present invention. An exemplary embodiment of the circuitry capable of demodulating IS-95 reverse link signals is described in detail in U.S. Patent No. 5,654,979, entitled "CELL SITE DEMODULATOR ARCHITECTURE FOR A SPREAD SPECTRUM MULTIPLE ACCESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM," assigned to the assignee of the present invention.

[0014] FIG. 1 shows an exemplary set of signals from a base station arriving at the mobile station. It will be understood by one skilled in the art that FIG. 1 is equally applicable to the signals from a mobile station arriving at the base station. The vertical axis represents the power received on a decibel (dB) scale. The horizontal axis represents the delay in the arrival time of a signal due to multipath delays. The axis (not shown) going into the page represents a segment of time. The signals in the common plane traveled along different paths arriving at the receiver at the same time, but having been transmitted at different times.

[0015] In a common plane, peaks to the right were transmitted at an earlier time by the base station than peaks to the left. For example, the left-most peak spike 2 corresponds to the most recently transmitted signal. Each signal spike 2 - 7 has traveled a different path and therefore exhibits a different time delay and a different amplitude response.

[0016] The six different signal spikes represented by spikes 2 - 7 are representative of a severe multipath environment. Typical urban environments produce fewer usable paths. The noise floor of the system is represented by the peaks and dips having lower energy levels.

[0017] The task of the searcher is to identify the delay as measured by the horizontal axis of signal spikes 2 - 7 for potential finger assignment. The task of the finger is to demodulate one of a set of the multipath peaks for combination into a single output. It is also the task of a finger, once assigned to a multipath peak, to track that peak as it may move in time.

[0018] The horizontal axis can also be thought of as having units of PN offset. At any given time, the mobile station receives a variety of signals from a base station, each of which has traveled a different path and may have a different delay than the others. The base station's signal is modulated by a PN sequence. A local copy of the PN sequence is also generated at the mobile station. Also at the mobile station, each multipath signal is

individually demodulated with a PN sequence code aligned to its received time offset. The horizontal axis coordinates can be thought of as corresponding to the PN sequence code offset that would be used to demodulate a signal at that coordinate.

[0019] Note that each of the multipath peaks varies in amplitude as a function of time, as shown by the uneven ridge of each multipath peak. In the limited time shown, there are no major changes in the multipath peaks. Over a more extended time range, multipath peaks disappear and new paths are created as time progresses. The peaks can also slide to earlier or later offsets as the path distances change when the mobile station moves relative to the base station. Each finger tracks these small variations in the signal assigned to it.

[0020] In narrowband systems, the existence of multipath in the radio channel can result in severe fading across the narrow frequency band being used. Such systems are capacity constrained by the extra transmit power needed to overcome a deep fade. As noted above, CDMA signal paths may be discriminated and diversity combined in the demodulation process.

[0021] Three major types of diversity exist: time diversity, frequency diversity, and space/path diversity. Time diversity can best be obtained by the use of repetition, time interleaving, and error correction and detection coding that introduce redundancy. A system may employ each of these techniques as a form of time diversity.

[0022] CDMA, by its inherent wideband nature, offers a form of frequency diversity by spreading the signal energy over a wide bandwidth. The frequency selective fading that can cause a deep fade across a narrowband system's frequency bandwidth usually only affects a fraction of the frequency band employed by the CDMA spread spectrum signal.

[0023] The rake receiver provides path diversity through its ability to combine multipath delayed signals; all paths that have a finger assigned to them must fade together before the combined signal is degraded. Additional path diversity is obtained through a process known as "soft hand-off" in which multiple simultaneous, redundant links from two or more base stations can be established with the mobile station. This supports a robust link in the challenging environment at the cell boundary region. Examples of path diversity are illustrated in U.S. Patent No. 5,101,501 entitled "SOFT HAND-OFF IN A CDMA CELLULAR TELEPHONE SYSTEM," and U.S. Patent No. 5,109,390 entitled "DIVERSITY RECEIVER IN A CDMA CELLULAR TELEPHONE SYSTEM," both assigned to the assignee of the present invention.

[0024] Both the cross-correlation between different PN sequences and the autocorrelation of a PN sequence, for all time shifts other than zero, have a nearly zero average value. This allows the different signals to be discriminated upon reception. Autocorrelation and cross-correlation require that logical “0” take on a value of “1” and logical “1” take on a value of “-1”, or a similar mapping, in order that a zero average value be obtained.

[0025] However, such PN signals are not orthogonal. Although the cross-correlation essentially averages to zero over the entire sequence length for a short time interval, such as an information bit time, the cross-correlation is a random variable with a binomial distribution. As such, the signals interfere with each other in much the same manner as if they were wide bandwidth Gaussian noise at the same power spectral density.

[0026] It is well known in the art that a set of n orthogonal binary sequences, each of length n , for n any power of 2 can be constructed (see *Digital Communications with Space Applications*, S.W. Golomb et al., Prentice-Hall, Inc., 1964, pp. 45-64). In fact, orthogonal binary sequence sets are also known for most lengths that are multiples of four and less than two hundred. One class of such sequences that is easy to generate is called the Walsh function; a Walsh function of order n can be defined recursively as follows:

$$W(n) = \begin{pmatrix} W(n/2) & W(n/2) \\ W(n/2) & W(n/2) \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

where W^* denotes the logical complement of W , and $W(1)=|0|$.

[0027] A Walsh sequence or code is one of the rows of a Walsh function matrix. A Walsh function matrix of order n contains n sequences, each of length n Walsh chips. A Walsh function matrix of order n (as well as other orthogonal functions of length n) has the property that over the interval of n bits, the cross-correlation between all the different sequences within the set is zero. Every sequence in the set differs from every other sequence in exactly half of its bits. It should also be noted that there is always one sequence containing all zeroes and that all the other sequences contain half ones and half zeroes.

[0028] In the system described in the '459 patent, the call signal begins as a 9600 bit per second information source which is then converted by a rate 1/2 forward error correction encoder to a 19,200 symbols per second output stream. Each call signal broadcast from a cell is covered with one of sixty-four orthogonal Walsh sequences, each sixty-four Walsh chips, or one symbol, in duration. Regardless of the symbol being covered, the orthogonality of all Walsh sequences ensures that all interference from other user signals in that cell are canceled out during symbol integration. The non-orthogonal interference from other cells limits capacity on the forward link.

[0029] Each base station in a CDMA system transmits in the same frequency band using the same PN sequence, but with a unique offset relative to an unshifted PN sequence aligned to a universal time reference. The PN spreading rate is the same as the Walsh cover rate, 1.2288 MHz, or 64 PN chips per symbol. In the preferred embodiment, each base station transmits a pilot reference. In the description of the present invention different information is transmitted on the I and Q channels which increases the capacity of the system.

[0030] The pilot channel is a "beacon" transmitting a constant zero symbol and spread with the same I and Q PN sequences used by the traffic bearing signals. In the exemplary embodiment, the pilot channel is covered with the all zero Walsh sequence 0. During initial system acquisition the mobile searches all possible shifts of the PN sequence and once it has found a base station's pilot, it can then synchronize itself to system time. As detailed below, the pilot plays a fundamental role in the mobile demodulator rake receiver architecture well beyond its use in initial synchronization.

[0031] FIG. 2 depicts a generic rake receiver demodulator 10 for receiving and demodulating the forward link signal 20 arriving at the antenna 18. The analog transmitter and receiver 16 contain a QPSK downconverter chain that outputs digitized I and Q channel samples 32 at baseband. The sampling clock, CHIPX8 40, used to digitize the receive waveform, is derived from a voltage controlled temperature compensated local oscillator (TCXO).

[0032] The demodulator 10 is supervised by a microprocessor 30 through the databus 34. Within the demodulator, the I and Q samples 32 are provided to a plurality of fingers 12a-c and a searcher 14. The searcher 14 searches out windows of offsets likely to contain multipath signal peaks suitable for assignment of fingers 12a-c. For each offset in the search window, the searcher 14 reports the pilot energy it found at that offset to the microprocessor. The fingers 12a-c are then surveyed, and those unassigned

or tracking weaker paths are assigned by the microprocessor **30** to offsets containing stronger paths identified by searcher **14**.

[0033] Once a finger **12a-c** has locked onto the multipath signal at its assigned offset it then tracks that path on its own until the path fades away or until it is reassigned using its internal time tracking loop. This finger time tracking loop measures energy on either side of the peak at the offset at which the finger is currently demodulating. The difference between these energies forms a metric which is then filtered and integrated.

[0034] The output of the integrator controls a decimator that selects one of the input samples over a chip interval to use in demodulation. If a peak moves, the finger adjusts its decimator position to move with it. The decimated sample stream is then despread with the PN sequence consistent with the offset to which the finger is assigned. The despread I and Q samples are summed over a symbol to produce a pilot vector (P_I, P_Q). These same despread I and Q samples are Walsh uncovered using the Walsh code assignment unique to the mobile user and the uncovered, despread I and Q samples are summed over a symbol to produce a symbol data vector (D_I, D_Q). The dot product operator is defined as

$$P(n) \cdot D(n) = P_I(n)D_I(n) + P_Q(n)D_Q(n), \quad (2)$$

where $P_I(n)$ and $P_Q(n)$ are respectively the I and Q components of the pilot vector P for symbol n and $D_I(n)$ and $D_Q(n)$ are respectively the I and Q components of the data vector D for symbol n .

[0035] Since the pilot signal vector is much stronger than the data signal vector it can be used as an accurate phase reference for coherent demodulation; the dot product computes the magnitude of the data vector component in phase with the pilot vector. As described in U.S. Patent No. 5,506,865, entitled "PILOT CARRIER DOT PRODUCT CIRCUIT" and assigned to the assignee of the present invention, the dot product weights the finger contributions for efficient combining, in effect scaling each finger symbol output **42a-c** by the relative strength of the pilot being received by that finger. Thus the dot product performs the dual role of both phase projection and finger symbol weighting needed in a coherent rake receiver demodulator.

[0036] Each finger has a lock detector circuit that masks the symbol output to the combiner **42** if its long term average energy does not exceed a minimum threshold. This

ensures that only fingers tracking a reliable path will contribute to the combined output, thus enhancing demodulator performance.

[0037] Due to the relative difference in arrival times of the paths to which each finger **12a-c** is assigned, each finger **12a-c** has a deskew buffer that aligns the finger symbol streams **42a-c** so that the symbol combiner **22** can sum them together to produce a “soft decision” demodulated symbol. This symbol is weighted by the confidence that it correctly identifies the originally transmitted symbol. The symbols are sent to a deinterleaver/decoder circuit **28** that first frame deinterleaves and then forward error correction decodes the symbol stream using the maximum likelihood Viterbi algorithm. The decoded data is then made available to the microprocessor **30** or to other components, such as a speech vocoder, for further processing.

[0038] To demodulate correctly, a mechanism is needed to align the local oscillator frequency with the clock used at the cell to modulate the data. Each finger makes an estimate of the frequency error by measuring the rotation rate of the pilot vector in QPSK I, Q space using the cross product vector operator:

$$P(n) \times P(n-1) = P_I(n)P_Q(n-1) - P_I(n-1)P_Q(n) \quad (3)$$

[0039] The frequency error estimates from each finger **44a-c** are combined and integrated in frequency error combiner **26**. The integrator output, LO_ADJ **36**, is then fed to the voltage control of the TCXO in the analog transmitter and receiver **16** to adjust the clock frequency of the CHIPX8 clock **40**, thus providing a closed loop mechanism for compensating for the frequency error of the local oscillator.

[0040] As described above, in current demodulator structures, a path must differ by at least one PN chip to have a separate finger allocated to its demodulation. However, there are cases when paths differ by less than a PN chip interval in the time, this situation leads to the existence of a “fat path.” Under traditional demodulator implementations, only one finger could be allocated to demodulate the fat path. One of the reasons for this is that once assigned to a path, the finger tracks the path movement independently. Without central coordination of the fingers multiple fingers will converge to the same peak of the fat path. In addition, the searcher tends to get confused when paths are tracked which are to close to one another.

[0041] On an orthogonal forward link, there is a great deal of energy in each of the paths because all of the energy from the base station to all mobiles is transmitted using the

same PN offset which are channelized by use of orthogonal code sequences. Moreover, orthogonal code sequences have poor autocorrelation in that the correlation between orthogonal code sequences is high. Thus, when paths on the forward link differ by less than a PN chip interval, the signals cannot be distinguished from one another by the outer PN spreading nor is the coding gain of the orthogonal spreading realized because of the time shift. The energy of the close multipath components in this case serves as noise and substantially degrades the performance of the demodulator assigned to the fat path. On the reverse link, close multipath components can also cause degradation of the demodulator assigned to the fat path.

[0042] The present invention is described with respect to the improvement of the demodulation of the forward link. However, the present invention is equally applicable to improving the demodulation of the reverse link.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0043] The features, objects, and advantages of the present invention will become more apparent from the detailed description set forth below when taken in conjunction with the drawings in which like reference characters identify correspondingly throughout and wherein:

[0044] FIG. 1 represents an exemplary severe multipath signal condition;

[0045] FIG. 2 is a block diagram of a current demodulation system;

[0046] FIG. 3 is an illustration of a fat path situation in which a number of multipath components are very closely spaced with respect to one another in arrival times at the receiver;

[0047] FIG. 4 is an illustration of the receiver structure that provides for effective demodulation of the closely spaced multipath components;

[0048] FIG. 5 is an illustration of an improved demodulation structure that allows for a single accumulator in the receiver architecture;

[0049] FIG. 6 is a first embodiment of the fat path demodulator of the present invention wherein four fingers are used to demodulate four multipath components with arrival times offset from one another by half of one PN chip wherein the method of path discrimination is through the offsetting of the PN sequences with accompanying deskewing prior to combination;

[0050] FIG. 7 is a second embodiment of the fat path demodulator of the present invention wherein four fingers are used to demodulate four multipath components with

arrival times offset from one another by half of one PN chip wherein the received signal is delayed by varying amounts of times before being provided to the respective fingers;

[0051] FIG. 8 is a third embodiment of the fat path demodulator of the present invention wherein six fingers are used to demodulate six multipath components with arrival times offset from one another by half of one PN chip wherein the received signal is delayed by varying amounts of times before being provided to the respective fingers;

[0052] FIG. 9 is a fourth embodiment of the fat path demodulator of the present invention wherein five fingers are used to demodulate five multipath components with arrival times offset from one another by one third of one PN chip wherein the received signal is delayed by varying amounts of times before being provided to the respective fingers;

[0053] FIG. 10 illustrates an alternative embodiment that allows for elimination of the input switch;

[0054] FIG. 11 illustrates an alternative embodiment that allows for eleimination of all but one Walsh sequence multiplier;

[0055] FIG. 12 illustrates an alternative embodiment that allows for the elimination of two demodulator structures; and

[0056] FIG. 13 illustrates an alternative embodiment that allows for the elimination of two demodulators and allows the reciver to operate at the PN chip rate.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0057] FIG. 3 shows an exemplary set of signals from a base station arriving at the mobile station at a given time. It will be understood by one skilled in the art that FIG. 3 is equally applicable to the signals from a mobile station arriving at the base station. The vertical axis represents the power received on a decibel (dB) scale. The horizontal axis represents the delay in the arrival time of a signal due to multipath delays. The signals on the x-axis traveled along different paths arriving at the receiver at the same time, but having been transmitted at different times.

[0058] In a common plane, peaks to the right were transmitted at an earlier time by the base station than peaks to the left. For example, the left-most peak spike **50** corresponds to the most recently transmitted signal. Each signal spike **50, 54 and 58** has traveled a different path and therefore exhibits a different time delay and a different amplitude response.

[0059] The three different signal spikes represented by spikes **50**, **54** and **58** are representative of a severe multipath environment. As described previously, the task of the searcher is to identify the delay as measured by the horizontal axis of signal spikes **50**, **54** and **58** for potential finger assignment. However, in the present invention, the additional task of the searcher is to identify peak **54** as a fat path or set of multipath components to which the demodulator structure of the present invention is capable of effective demodulation of close multipath components. The task of each of the finger is to demodulate one of a set of the multipath peaks for combination into a single output. It is also the task of a finger, once assigned to a multipath peak, to track that peak as it may move in time.

[0060] FIG. 4 depicts the rake receiver demodulator **110** of the present invention for receiving and demodulating the forward link signal **120** arriving at the antenna **118** of the present invention. The analog transmitter and receiver **116** contain a QPSK downconverter chain that outputs digitized I and Q channel samples **132** at baseband. In an exemplary embodiment, the sampling clock, CHIPX8 **140**, used to digitize the receive waveform, is derived from a voltage controlled temperature compensated local oscillator (TCXO).

[0061] The demodulator **110** is supervised by a microprocessor **130** through the databus **134**. Within the demodulator, the I and Q samples **132** are provided to a plurality of fingers **112a-c** and a searcher **114**. Although the exemplary embodiment is described in terms of QPSK demodulation, the present invention is equally applicable to BPSK, QAM (Quadrature Amplitude Modulation), M-ary PSK or any known modulation method. The searcher **114** searches out windows of offsets likely to contain multipath signal peaks suitable for assignment of fingers **112a-c**. For each offset in the search window, the searcher **114** reports the pilot energy it found at that window of offsets to the microprocessor **130**. In the present invention, microprocessor **130** determines where to assign fingers and determines whether and where to assign a fat path demodulators.

[0062] Searcher **114** reports the energies in a window around peaks **50**, **54** and **58**. Microprocessor **130** determine from the reported energies that peaks **50** and **58** were narrow and could be successfully demodulated with a single path demodulator. Microprocessor **130** would also be able to identify the multipath component at peak **54** as a fat path and would assign for its demodulation the fat path demodulator of the present invention. So for example, fingers **112a** and **112b** demodulate single paths and are assigned to paths **50** and **58** of FIG. 3. Finger **112c**, on the other hand, are directed

by microprocessor 130 to perform a fast path demodulation and would be assigned to demodulate path 54.

[0063] FIG. 5 illustrates a novel RAKE receiver structure that uses a single accumulator instead of an accumulator for each finger as is provided in current RAKE receiver structures. The digitized samples are provided to complex PN despreader 150 of demodulator 158. In the exemplary embodiment, the signals are complex PN spread as described in U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/856,428, entitled "HIGH DATA RATE CDMA WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM USING VARIABLE SIZED CHANNEL CODES," filed May 14, 1997, assigned to the assignee of the present invention, in accordance with the following equations:

$$I = I' PN_I + Q' PN_Q \quad (4)$$

$$Q = I' PN_Q - Q' PN_I. \quad (5)$$

where PN_I and PN_Q are distinct PN spreading codes and I' and Q' are two channels being spread at the transmitter. Complex PN despreader 150 removes the complex spreading based on the PN codes, PN_I and PN_Q , to provide two complex PN despread signals.

[0064] The complex PN despread signals are provided to pilot filter 152 and complex conjugate multiplier 154. Pilot filter 152 uncovers the pilot signal in accordance with the orthogonal covering (W_{pilot}) and, in a preferred embodiment, provides some filtering to the resultant signal to remove the effects of noise on the received signal. In the exemplary embodiment, the pilot signal is covered using Walsh 0 which is the all zeroes Walsh sequence. Thus, uncovering the Walsh sequence is a no op and pilot filter 152 simply acts as a low pass filter to reduce the effect of channel noise.

[0065] Complex conjugate multiplier 154 multiplies the signal from complex PN despreader 150 by the conjugate of the filtered pilot signal from pilot filter 152. By multiplying the complex despread data by the conjugate of the signals from pilot filter 152, the demodulator removes any phase error from the received signal. In effect complex conjugate multiply circuit projects the received signal onto the pilot signal and outputs the magnitudes of the projections.

[0066] The signals from complex conjugate multiplier 154 are provided to Walsh multiplier 156. Walsh multiplier 156 multiply the I and Q traffic channels with the orthogonal traffic channel covering sequences $W_{traffic}$. The traffic channel data is then output to symbol combiner 160. Demodulators 158b and 158c demodulate the received

signals for different multipath components using different PN offsets of PN_1 and PN_Q and are deskewed prior to being provided to combiner 160. In the exemplary embodiment, only signals with energies exceeding a predetermined threshold are combined in combiner 160. The combined symbol energies are thereafter provided to accumulator 162 which accumulates the combined energy values over Walsh sequence intervals to provide estimates of the I + Q values.

[0067] In an alternative embodiment, complex conjugate multiplier 154 and Walsh multiplier 156 can be interchanged without the need for altering any other functions. It will be understood by one skilled in the art that the simple rearrangements of elements are well known in the art and are within the scope of the present invention.

[0068] Before turning our attention to the implementation of the fat finger demodulator structure, let us briefly examine the process that allows combining of the received signals in a CDMA communication system. Referring back to FIG. 1, it was described earlier that the peaks on the common plane were transmitted at different times and followed different propagation paths so as to arrive at the receiver at a common time. As described above, the signal in peak 2 corresponds to the most recently transmitted signal. The signal in peak 3 was transmitted approximately 2 PN chip intervals in time later. In order to combine the information in peak 2 with the information in peak 3, the information from peak 2 must be delayed by two PN chip intervals before being combined with the information from peak 3 so that different version of the same information are combined.

[0069] The proposed fat path demodulators take advantage of both PN shifting and time delay to provide for deskewing of the information. Turning to FIG. 6, a fat path demodulator is illustrated which performs demodulation of fat paths comprising a set of closely spaced multipath components with energy spread across a plurality of PN chips. In FIG. 6, four demodulators 200a-200d are provided to demodulate paths that are a fixed half PN chip distance from one another. The demodulators move together demodulating a PN offsets that are offset from one another by fixed increments. In an alternative embodiment, the microprocessor in the receiver could be used to determine the shape of the fat path and would adjust the values of delay elements in accordance with the shape of the path grouping. In the exemplary embodiment, one of the demodulators is the master and tracks the peak of set of multipath signals and the other demodulators act as slaves and follow the tracking of the master demodulator.

[0070] Demodulator **200a** and demodulator **200c** demodulate the received signal using PN sequences that are offset from one another by one PN chip interval. This can be seen by observing that the signal provided to input **198** is provided directly to demodulators **200a** and **200c**. Demodulator **200a** demodulates the received signal in accordance with a PN offset from PN generator **206** that is delayed by one PN chip interval by delay element **208** and in accordance with a Walsh sequence from Walsh generator **218** that is delayed by one PN chip interval by delay element **216**.

[0071] As described with respect to FIG. 1, the signal demodulated by demodulator **200a** followed a propagation path that took one PN chip longer to traverse than the propagation path upon which the signal demodulated by demodulator **200c** followed. In order to properly combine the information, delay element **220** delays the data demodulated by demodulator **200c** prior to combining with the demodulated data from demodulator **200a**.

[0072] The same combining operation is performed with respect to the signals demodulated by demodulators **200b** and **200d**. Demodulators **200b** and **200d** demodulate signal that have traversed paths that differ by one half PN chip interval from the signals demodulated by demodulators **200a** and **200c**, respectively. The deskewing of the half chip path difference is not performed by a delays but rather is inherent in the performance of the signal combining operation in combiner element **224** which combines when the demodulated data from demodulators **200b** and **200d** is available to combiner element **224**. This intrinsically means that the information from demodulators **200a** and **200c** was provided a half PN cycle earlier than the demodulated information from demodulators **200b** and **200d** in essence performing the additional deskewing operation. One skilled in the art will recognize that this operation could be performed by placing addition $\frac{1}{2}$ PN chip delays on the outputs of demodulators **200b** and **200d**.

[0073] Moving to the detailed operation of the demodulator of FIG. 6, baseband samples at twice the PN chip rate are provided to switch **202**. Switch **202** switches between outputs **198** and **199** at twice the rate of the PN chip cycle. The first base band sample is provided to demodulators **200a** and **200c**. The next baseband sample that arrives one half PN chip interval later is provided to demodulators **200b** and **200d**.

[0074] The first sample is provided through switch **202** on line **198** to demodulator **200a**. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **204a**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **204a** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **206**. The

PN sequences are delayed by delay element **208** by one PN chip period. The complex despreading operation is performed as described above with respect to complex despreading element **150** of FIG. 5.

[0075] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **212a** and to pilot filter **210a**. Complex conjugate multiplier removes phase ambiguities that are introduced by the propagation path. Pilot filter **210a** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **210a** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **212a** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **214a**.

[0076] Walsh sequence multiplier **214a** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **212a** by the traffic channel Walsh sequence from Walsh generator **218** which is delayed by one PN chip interval by delay element **216**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner element **224**.

[0077] The first sample is redundantly provided through switch **202** on line **198** to demodulator **200c**. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **204c**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **204c** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **206**. The PN sequences are provided directly to PN descrambling element **204c** which results in the sample being demodulated by a PN sequence offset from the sequence used by demodulator **200a** by one PN chip interval.

[0078] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **212c** and to pilot filter **210c**. Pilot filter **210c** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **210c** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **212c** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel and the

PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **214c**.

[0079] Walsh sequence multiplier **214c** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **212c** by the traffic channel Walsh sequence from Walsh generator **218**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to summing means **224**.

[0080] After one half PN chip interval, switch **202** toggles so as to put the next sample, received one half PN chip interval later, on input line **199** to demodulators **200b** and **200d**. Within demodulator **200b**, the sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **204b**. As described previously PN descrambling element **204b** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **206b**. The PN sequences are delayed by delay element **208** by one PN chip period.

[0081] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **212b** and to pilot filter **210b**. Pilot filter **210b** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, pilot filter **210b** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **212b** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **214b**.

[0082] Walsh sequence multiplier **214b** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **212b** by the traffic channel Walsh sequence from Walsh generator **218** which is delayed by one PN chip interval by delay element **216**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner means **224**.

[0083] The second sample is redundantly provided through switch **202** on line **199** to demodulator **200d**. The second sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **204d**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **204d** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **206**. The PN sequences are provided directly to PN descrambling element **204d** which results in the sample being demodulated by a PN sequence offset from the sequence used by demodulator **200b** by one PN chip interval.

[0084] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **212d** and to pilot filter **210d**. Pilot filter **210d** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, pilot filter **210d** is simply a low pass filter that removes the

noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **212d** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **214d**.

[0085] Walsh sequence multiplier **214d** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **212d** by a Walsh sequence from Walsh generator **218**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner **224**.

[0086] After the demodulated signals from demodulators **200b** and **200d** have been provided to combiner element **224**, combiner element **224** combines the energies and outputs the combined energy values to accumulator **226**. Accumulator **226** performs the integration or summation of the input symbols over the Walsh symbol interval. Combiner element **224** can perform the combination in a variety of ways. Combiner element **224** could sum only demodulated data with energy above a threshold value or could sum all of the energies. Alternatively, combiner **224** could select the demodulated data with the greatest energy. In an alternative embodiment, combiner **224** combines the energy based on the power of the demodulated pilot from pilot filter **210**. For the sake of clarity, optional lines from pilot filters **210** to combiner **224** have been omitted.

[0087] In FIG. 7, a second fat path demodulator is illustrated where the delays are applied to the input signal instead of the demodulation elements. In FIG. 7, four demodulators **300a-300d** are provided to demodulate paths that are a fixed half PN chip distance from one another. The demodulators move together demodulating PN offsets that are offset from one another by fixed increments. As described previously a microprocessor could be used to vary the amount of delay provided by delay elements **320** and **322**. In the exemplary embodiment, one of the demodulators is the master and tracks the peak of set of multipath signals and the other demodulators act as slaves and follow the master demodulator. In the exemplary embodiment, a metric such as the power from pilot filter **210** can be used by the master finger to track the movement of the peak.

[0088] Demodulator **300a** and demodulator **300c** demodulate the received signal that are delayed with respect to one another by one PN chip interval. The signal provided to input **298** is provided directly to demodulator **300a**. The signal is delayed by one PN chip interval by delay element **320** prior to being provided to demodulator **300c**. If a first version of the transmitted signal traverses a first propagation path to be successfully demodulated by demodulator **300a**, then a second version of the transmitted signal

would need to traverse a second propagation path requiring a PN chip interval longer than the time required to traverse the first propagation path in order to be successfully demodulated by demodulator 300c.

[0089] Half of a PN chip interval later, switch 302 toggles to provide the sample taken half a chip interval later onto line 299. The second sample is provided directly to demodulator 300b and delayed by one PN chip interval by delay element 322 prior to being provided to demodulator 300d. This performs the path diversity combination as described above with respect to demodulators 300a and 300c.

[0090] The first sample is provided through switch 302 on line 298 to demodulator 300a. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element 304a. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element 204a descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_1 and PN_Q) provided by PN generator 206. The complex despreading operation is performed as described above with respect to complex despreading element 150a.

[0091] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier 312a and to pilot filter 310a. Complex conjugate multiplier removes phase ambiguities that are introduced by the propagation path. Pilot filter 310a uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter 310a is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier 312a which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier 314a.

[0092] Walsh sequence multiplier 314a multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier 312a by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator 318. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner element 224.

[0093] The first sample is redundantly provided through switch 302 on line 298 to delay element 320. Delay element 320 delays the signal by one PN chip interval prior to providing the sample to demodulator 300c. Thus, the signal successfully demodulated by demodulator 300c will have traversed a propagation path that required one PN chip less time to traverse than the path that was successfully demodulated by demodulator 300a. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element 304c. In the

exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **304c** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_1 and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **306**.

[0094] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **312c** and to pilot filter **310c**. Pilot filter **310c** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **310c** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **212c** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **214c**.

[0095] Walsh sequence multiplier **314c** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **312c** by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **318**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner element **324**.

[0096] After one half PN chip interval, switch **302** toggles so as to put the next sample, received one half PN chip interval later, on input line **299** to demodulators **300b** and **300d**. Within demodulator **300b**, the sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **304b**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **304b** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_1 and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **306b**.

[0097] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **312b** and to pilot filter **310b**. Pilot filter **310b** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, pilot filter **310b** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **312b** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **314b**.

[0098] Walsh sequence multiplier **314b** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **312b** by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **318** which is delayed by one PN chip interval by delay element **316**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner element **324**.

[00099] The second sample is redundantly provided through switch **302** on line **299** to delay element **322**. Delay element **322** delays the signal by one PN chip interval prior to providing it to demodulator **300d**. Demodulator **300d** successfully demodulates a signals that traversed a path that took one PN chip less time to traverse than the path successfully demodulated by demodulator **300b**. The second sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **304d**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **304d** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **306**.

[00100] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **312d** and to pilot filter **310d**. Pilot filter **310d** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, pilot filter **310d** is simply a low pass filter that removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **312d** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **314d**.

[00101] Walsh sequence multiplier **314d** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **312d** by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **318**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner element **324**.

[00102] After the demodulated signals from demodulators **300b** and **300d** have been provided to combiner element **324**, combiner element **324** combines the energies and outputs the combined energy values to accumulator **326**. As described earlier, the combining operation can take many forms all of which are within the scope of the present invention. Accumulator **326** performs the integration or summation of the input symbols over the Walsh symbol interval.

[00103] Turning to FIG. 8. demodulators **400a**, **400c** and **400e** demodulate the received signal delayed with respect to one another by one PN chip interval. Similarly, demodulators **400b**, **400d** and **400f** demodulate a second set of samples delayed with respect to one another by one PN chip interval. The theory behind the operation of the demodulator of FIG. 8 is identical to that of FIG. 7. Each demodulator demodulates the signal that traversed a path that required a time to traverse differing from one another by one half PN chip interval.

[00104] The first sample is provided through switch **402** onto line **398** to demodulator **400a**. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **404a**. In the

exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element 404a descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator 406 as described previously.

[00105] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier 412a and to pilot filter 410a. Complex conjugate multiplier 412a removes phase ambiguities that are introduced by the propagation path. Pilot filter 410a uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter 410a is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier 412a which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier 414a.

[00106] Walsh sequence multiplier 414a multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier 412a by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator 418. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner element 424.

[00107] The first sample is redundantly provided through switch 402 on line 398 to delay element 420. Delay element 420 delays the signal by one PN chip interval prior to providing the sample to demodulator 400c. Thus, the signal successfully demodulated by demodulator 400c will have traversed a propagation path that required one PN chip less time to traverse than the path that was successfully demodulated by demodulator 400a. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element 404c. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element 404c descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator 406.

[00108] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier 412c and to pilot filter 410c. Pilot filter 410c uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter 410c is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier 412c which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate

and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **414c**.

[00109] Walsh sequence multiplier **414c** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **412c** by Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **418**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner element **424**.

[00110] The first sample is also redundantly provided through delay element **422a** to delay element **422b**. Delay element **422b** delays the signal by one additional PN chip interval prior to providing the sample to demodulator **400e**. Thus, the signal successfully demodulated by demodulator **400e** will have traversed a propagation path that required one PN chip less time to traverse than the path that was successfully demodulated by demodulator **400c** and two PN chip intervals less than the signal successfully demodulated by demodulator **400a**. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **404e**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **404e** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **406**.

[00111] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **412e** and to pilot filter **410e**. Pilot filter **410e** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **410e** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **412e** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **414e**.

[00112] Walsh sequence multiplier **414e** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **412e** by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **418**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner element **424**.

[00113] After one half PN chip interval, switch **402** toggles so as to put the next sample, received one half PN chip interval later, on input line **399** to demodulators **400b**, **400d** and **400f**.

[00114] Within demodulator **400b**, the sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **404b**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **404b** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided

by PN generator **406b**. The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **412b** and to pilot filter **410b**. Pilot filter **410b** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, pilot filter **410b** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **412b** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **414b**.

[00115] Walsh sequence multiplier **414b** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **412b** by Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **418**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner **424**.

[00116] The second sample is redundantly provided through switch **402** on line **399** to delay element **420a**. Delay element **420a** delays the signal by one PN chip interval prior to providing it to demodulator **400d**. Demodulator **400d** successfully demodulates a signals that traversed a path that took one PN chip less time to traverse than the path successfully demodulated by demodulator **400b**. The second sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **404d**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **404d** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **406**.

[00117] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **412d** and to pilot filter **410d**. Pilot filter **410d** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, pilot filter **410d** is simply a low pass filter that removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **412d** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **414d**.

[00118] Walsh sequence multiplier **414d** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **412d** by a Walsh sequence from Walsh generator **418**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner **424**.

[00119] The second sample is redundantly provided through delay element **420a** to delay element **420b**. Delay element **420b** delays the signal by one additional PN chip interval prior to providing the sample to demodulator **400f**. Thus, the signal successfully

demodulated by demodulator **400f** will have traversed a propagation path that required one PN chip less time to traverse than the path that was successfully demodulated by demodulator **400d** and two PN chip intervals less than the signal successfully demodulated by demodulator **400b**. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **404f**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **404f** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **406**.

[00120] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **412f** and to pilot filter **410f**. Pilot filter **410f** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **410f** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **412f** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **414f**.

[00121] Walsh sequence multiplier **414f** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **412f** by a Walsh sequence from Walsh generator **418**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to summing means **424**.

[00122] After the demodulated signals from demodulators **400b**, **400d** and **400f** have been provided to summing element **424**, summing element **424** sums the energies and outputs the summed energy values to accumulator **426**. Accumulator **426** performs the integration or summation of the input symbols over the Walsh symbol interval.

[00123] Turning to FIG. 9, the baseband samples are provided to the fat finger demodulator illustrated in FIG. 9 at three times the PN chip rate. The baseband samples are provided to switch **502** which switches each subsequent sample to a different line. Demodulators **500a** and **500d** demodulate the received signal that are delayed with respect to one another by one PN chip interval. Similarly, demodulators **500b** and **500e** demodulate a second set of samples delayed with respect to one another by one PN chip interval. Lastly, demodulator **500c** demodulates a set of samples that is unique from those provided to demodulators **500a**, **500b**, **500d** and **500e**. The theory behind the operation of the demodulator of FIG. 9 is identical to that of FIG. 8. Each demodulator

demodulates the signal that traversed a path that required a time to traverse differing from one another by one half PN chip interval.

[00124] The first sample is provided through switch **502** onto line **499** to demodulator **500a**. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **504a**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **504a** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **506**.

[00125] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **512a** and to pilot filter **510a**. Complex conjugate multiplier **512a** removes phase ambiguities that are introduced by the propagation path. Pilot filter **510a** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **510a** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **512a** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **514a**.

[00126] Walsh sequence multiplier **514a** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **512a** by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **518**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner **524**.

[00127] The first sample is redundantly provided through switch **502** on line **499** to delay element **522**. Delay element **522** delays the signal by one PN chip interval prior to providing the sample to demodulator **500d**. Thus, the signal successfully demodulated by demodulator **500d** will have traversed a propagation path that required one PN chip less time to traverse than the path that was successfully demodulated by demodulator **500a**. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **504d**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **504d** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **506**.

[00128] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **512d** and to pilot filter **510d**. Pilot filter **510c** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **510d** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the

filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **512d** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **514d**.

[00129] Walsh sequence multiplier **514d** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **512d** by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **518**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner **524**.

[00130] After one third PN chip interval, switch **502** toggles so as to put the next sample on input line **498** to demodulators **500b** and **500e**.

[00131] Within demodulator **500b**, the sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **504b**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **504b** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **506**. The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **512b** and to pilot filter **510b**. Pilot filter **510b** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, pilot filter **510b** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **512b** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **514b**.

[00132] Walsh sequence multiplier **514b** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **512b** by Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **518**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner **524**.

[00133] The second sample is redundantly provided through switch **502** on line **498** to delay element **520**. Delay element **520** delays the signal by one PN chip interval prior to providing it to demodulator **500e**. Demodulator **500e** successfully demodulates a signals that traversed a path that took one PN chip less time to traverse than the path successfully demodulated by demodulator **500b**. The second sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **504e**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **504e** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **506**.

[00134] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **512e** and to pilot filter **510e**. Pilot filter **510e** uncovers the pilot

channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, pilot filter **510e** is simply a low pass filter that removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **512e** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **514e**.

[00135] Walsh sequence multiplier **514e** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **512e** by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **518**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner **524**.

[00136] One third of a PN chip interval later, switch **502** switches so as to provide the third base band sample onto output line **497**, which provides the sample directly to demodulator **500c**. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling element **504c**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling element **504c** descrambles the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **506**.

[00137] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **512c** and to pilot filter **510c**. Pilot filter **510c** uncovers the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **510c** is simply a low pass filter which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **512c** which computes the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide a scalar sequence to Walsh sequence multiplier **514c**.

[00138] Walsh sequence multiplier **514c** multiplies the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **512c** by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **518** and provides the result to combiner **524** combines the energies of the demodulated signals from demodulators **500a**, **500b**, **500c**, **500d** and **500e** and provides the result to accumulator **526**. As described previously there are many alternative methods of combining the demodulated data all of which are within the scope of the present invention. Accumulator **526** accumulates the combined energy values over the Walsh symbol interval and outputs the result.

[00139] FIG. 10 illustrates a modification to FIG. 7 which is applicable to all of the previous embodiments illustrated in FIGS. 6, 7, 8 and 9. FIG. 10 illustrates a

modification to FIG. 7 which allows for the elimination of switch 302. In FIG. 10, four demodulators **600a**, **600b**, **600c** and **600d** are provided to demodulate paths that are a fixed half PN chip distance from one another. The received samples are provided at twice the PN chip rate to demodulators **600a**, **600b**, **600c** and **600d**. Pilot filters **610a** and **610c** ignore the even samples and pilot filters **610b** and **610d** ignore the odd samples. Combiner **624** only combines demodulated odd samples from demodulators **600a** and **600c** with demodulated even samples from demodulators **600b** and **600d**.

[00140] The first sample is provided directly to demodulators **600a** and **600b** and is delayed by one PN chip interval by delay elements **620** and **622** before being provided to demodulators **600c** and **600d**, respectively. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling elements **604a**, **604b**, **604c** and **604d**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling elements **604a**, **604b**, **604c** and **604d** descramble the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **606**. The complex descrambling operation is performed as described above with respect to complex despreading element **150a**.

[00141] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **612a**, **612b**, **612c** and **612d** and to pilot filter **610a**, **610b**, **610c** and **610d**. Complex conjugate multiplier removes phase ambiguities that are introduced by the propagation path. Pilot filters **610b** and **610d** ignore the first sample and all future odd samples. Pilot filters **610a** and **610c** uncover the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **610a** and **610c** are simply low pass filters which remove the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multipliers **612a** and **612c** which compute the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide scalar sequences to Walsh sequence multipliers **614a** and **614c**.

[00142] Walsh sequence multipliers **614a** and **614c** multiply the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multipliers **612a** and **612c** by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **618**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner element **624**. Note that although PN descrambling and Walsh multiplication are provided on the first sample by demodulators **600b** and **600d**, combiner **624** ignores the data provided from demodulators **600b** and **600d** for odd samples as erroneous.

[00143] The second sample is, then, provided directly to demodulators **600a** and **600b** and is delayed by one PN chip interval by delay elements **620** and **622** before being provided to demodulators **600c** and **600d**, respectively. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling elements **604a**, **604b**, **604c** and **604d**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling elements **604a**, **604b**, **604c** and **604d** descramble the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **606**. The complex descrambling operation is performed as described above with respect to complex despreading element **150a**.

[00144] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **612a**, **612b**, **612c** and **612d** and to pilot filter **610a**, **610b**, **610c** and **610d**. Complex conjugate multipliers remove phase ambiguities that are introduced by the propagation path. Pilot filters **610a** and **610c** ignore the second sample and all future even samples. Pilot filters **610b** and **610d** uncover the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **610b** and **610d** are simply low pass filters which remove the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multipliers **612b** and **612d** which compute the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide scalar sequences to Walsh sequence multipliers **614b** and **614d**.

[00145] Walsh sequence multipliers **614b** and **614d** multiply the input scalar sequence from complex conjugate multiplier **612b** and **612d** by the Walsh traffic sequence from Walsh generator **618**. The multiplied sequence is then provided to combiner element **624**. Note that although PN descrambling and Walsh multiplication are provided on the second sample by demodulators **600a** and **600c**, combiner **624** ignores the data provided from demodulators **600b** and **600d** for odd samples as erroneous.

[00146] After the demodulated signals from demodulators **600b** and **600d** have been provided to combiner element **624**, combiner element **624** combines the energies and outputs the combined energy values to accumulator **626**. As described earlier, the combining operation can take many forms all of which are within the scope of the present invention. Accumulator **626** performs the integration or summation of the input symbols over the Walsh symbol interval.

[00147] FIG. 11 illustrates a modification to FIG. 10 which is applicable to all of the previous embodiments illustrated in FIGS. 6, 7, 8 and 9. FIG. 11 illustrates a modification to FIG. 10 which allows for the elimination of all but one Walsh multiplier. In FIG. 10, four demodulators **650a**, **650b**, **650c** and **650d** are provided to demodulate paths that are a fixed half PN chip distance from one another. The received samples are provided at twice the PN chip rate to demodulators **650a**, **650b**, **650c** and **650d**. Pilot filters **660a** and **660c** ignore the even samples and pilot filters **660b** and **660d** ignore the odd samples. Combiner **674** only combines demodulated odd samples from demodulators **650a** and **650c** with demodulated even samples from demodulators **650b** and **650d**.

[00148] The first sample is provided directly to demodulators **650a** and **650b** and is delayed by one PN chip interval by delay elements **670** and **672** before being provided to demodulators **650c** and **650d**, respectively. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling elements **654a**, **654b**, **654c** and **654d**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling elements **654a**, **654b**, **654c** and **654d** descramble the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **656**.

[00149] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multipliers **662a**, **662b**, **662c** and **662d** and to pilot filters **660a**, **660b**, **660c** and **660d**. Complex conjugate multipliers remove phase ambiguities that are introduced by the propagation path. Pilot filters **660b** and **660d** ignore the first sample and all future odd samples. Pilot filters **660a** and **660c** uncover the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filter **660a** and **660c** are simply low pass filters which remove the noise from the pilot signal.

[00150] The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multipliers **662a** and **662c** which compute the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide scalar sequences to combiner **674**. Note that although PN descrambling and Walsh multiplication are provided on the first sample by demodulators **650b** and **650d**, combiner **674** ignores the data provided from demodulators **650b** and **650d** for odd samples as erroneous.

[00151] The second sample is, then, provided directly to demodulators **650a** and **650b** and is delayed by one PN chip interval by delay elements **620** and **622** before being

provided to demodulators **650c** and **650d**, respectively. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling elements **654a**, **654b**, **654c** and **654d**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling elements **654a**, **654b**, **654c** and **654d** descramble the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_1 and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **656**. The complex descrambling operation is performed as described above with respect to complex despreading element **150a**.

[00152] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multipliers **662a**, **662b**, **662c** and **662d** and to pilot filters **660a**, **660b**, **660c** and **660d**. Complex conjugate multipliers remove phase ambiguities that are introduced by the propagation path. Pilot filters **660a** and **660c** ignore the second sample and all future even samples.

[00153] Pilot filters **660b** and **660d** uncover the pilot channel in accordance with the Walsh covering for the pilot channel W_{pilot} . In the exemplary embodiment, W_{pilot} is the all zeroes Walsh sequence for which the uncovering operation is a No Op. In this special case, pilot filters **660b** and **660d** are simply low pass filters which removes the noise from the pilot signal. The complex conjugate of the filtered pilot signal and the complex PN despread sequences are multiplied in complex conjugate multiplier **662b** and **662d** which compute the dot product of the pilot channel conjugate and the PN descrambled sequence to provide scalar sequences to combiner **674**.

[00154] Combiner **674** combines the odd samples demodulated by demodulators **650a** and **650c** with the even samples demodulated by demodulators **650b** and **650d**. Combiner **674** can take many forms as discussed previously with respect to the previous combiners. The combined symbols are then provided to Walsh sequence multiplier **664**.

[00155] Walsh sequence multiplier **664** multiplies the combined symbol sequence by the Walsh traffic sequence $W_{Traffic}$ which is provided by Walsh sequence generator **668**. The output from Walsh sequence multiplier **664** is provided to accumulator **676**. Accumulator **676** accumulates the Walsh multiplied sequence to provide Walsh despread data.

[00156] FIG. 12 illustrates a modification to FIG. 7 which is equally applicable to the modification of FIGS. 6, 7, 8 and 9. FIG. 12 provides for the demodulation of four paths that are one half PN chip apart using two demodulators. Demodulator **700a** demodulates two paths that are one half PN chip apart and Demodulator **700b** demodulates two additional paths that are one half PN chip apart from one another and one full PN chip from the paths demodulated by demodulator **700a**.

[00157] The samples are provided at twice the PN chip rate. The samples are provided directly to demodulator **700a** and are delayed by one PN chip prior to being provided to demodulator **700b**. The sample is PN descrambled in PN descrambling elements **704a** and **704b**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling elements **704a** and **704b** descramble the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_I and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **706**. The complex descrambling operation is performed as described above with respect to complex despreading element **150a**.

[00158] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multiplier **712a** and **712b** and to pilot filter **710a** and **710b**. Complex conjugate multipliers remove phase ambiguities that are introduced by the propagation path.

[00159] In the first embodiment of pilot filters **710a** and **710b**, pilot filters **710a** and **710b** consist of two independent filters. A first of the two independent filters processes the odd samples and a second of the two independent filters processes the even samples.

[00160] In this embodiment, a first sample is provided to pilot filter **710a** and **710b**, and is processed by the independent filter within it which processes the odd samples. The output of the pilot filters **710a** and **710b** are provided to complex conjugate multipliers **712a** and **712b** which multiply the conjugate of the pilot filter output with the descrambled signal from PN descrambling element **704a** and **704b**. Note the odd descrambled symbols are complex multiplied by the odd pilot symbols.

[00161] In this embodiment, a second sample is provided to pilot filter **710a** and **710b**, and is processed by the independent filter within it which processes the even samples. The output of the pilot filters **710a** and **710b** are provided to complex conjugate multipliers **712a** and **712b** which multiply the conjugate of the pilot filter output with the descrambled signal from PN descrambling element **704a** and **704b**. Note the even descrambled symbols are complex multiplied by the even pilot symbols.

[00162] In a second embodiment of pilot filters **710a** and **710b**, each pilot filter simply processes all of the samples.

[00163] The data from complex conjugate multipliers **712a** and **712b** are provided to Walsh sequence multipliers **714a** and **714b**. The Walsh traffic sequence is provided by Walsh generator **718** and the product sequence is provided from Walsh sequence multipliers **714a** and **714b** to combiner **724**. Combiner **724** combines the Walsh sequence multiplied data as described with respect to combiner **224**. The combined

symbols are provided to accumulator **726** which accumulates the energy over the Walsh symbol length.

[00164] FIG. 13 illustrates a modification to FIG. 12. FIG. 13 essentially performs the operation as described with respect to FIG. 12 using the second implementation of the pilot filter. Demodulator **800a** demodulates two paths that are one half PN chip apart and demodulator **800b** demodulates two additional paths that are one half PN chip apart from one another and one full PN chip from the paths demodulated by demodulator **800a**.

[00165] The samples are provided at twice the PN chip rate. The samples are provided to sample combiners **834a** and **834b**. Sample combiners **834a** and **834b** receive the samples at twice the PN chip rate and sum together sample received one half PN chip apart and provide the sum to demodulators **800a** and **800b** at the chip rate.

[00166] The first sample is provided to sample combiners **834** and is provided through switches **832** to delay elements **828**. Delay elements **828** delay the sample by one half PN chip interval before providing the sample to a first summing input of summers **830**. The second sample is then provided to equalizers **834** and provided through switches **832** to a second summing input of summer **830**.

[00167] The two samples are summed together by summers **830** and the output is provided by sample combiner **834a** to demodulator **800a** and by sample combiners **834b** to delay element **822**. Delay element **822** delays the result from summer **830b** by one PN chip interval before providing it to demodulator **800b**.

[00168] In demodulators **800a** and **800b**, the received summed samples are provided to PN descrambling elements **804a** and **804b**. In the exemplary embodiment, PN descrambling elements **804a** and **804b** descramble the sample in accordance with two PN sequences (PN_1 and PN_Q) provided by PN generator **806**. The complex descrambling operation is performed as described above with respect to complex despreading element **150a**.

[00169] The complex PN descrambled sequences are provided to a first input of complex conjugate multipliers **812a** and **812b** and to pilot filters **810a** and **810b**. Complex conjugate multipliers remove phase ambiguities that are introduced by the propagation path. Complex conjugate multipliers **812a** and **812b** multiply the PN descramble symbols by the conjugate of the pilot filter symbols.

The data from complex conjugate multipliers **812a** and **812b** are provided to Walsh sequence multipliers **814a** and **814b**. The Walsh traffic sequence is provided by Walsh

generator **818** and the product sequence is provided from Walsh sequence multipliers **814a** and **814b** to combiner **824**. Combiner **824** combines the Walsh sequence multiplied data as described with respect to combiner **224**. The combined symbols are provided to accumulator **826** which accumulates the energy over the Walsh symbol length. Although the present invention is described with respect to traditional PN sequences such as those in IS-95, the present invention is equally applicable to other spreading sequences such as Gold codes. Moreover, although coherent detection using pilot channel offer significant benefits in system performance, the present invention is equally applicable to non coherent detection methods that do not use a pilot channel.

[00170] The previous description of the preferred embodiments is provided to enable any person skilled in the art to make or use the present invention. The various modifications to these embodiments will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art, and the generic principles defined herein may be applied to other embodiments without the use of the inventive faculty. Thus, the present invention is not intended to be limited to the embodiments shown herein but is to be accorded the widest scope consistent with the principles and novel features disclosed herein.

[00171] **WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**